

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly amend the paragraphs beginning at page 9, line 29 as follows:

- Figure 1: Schematic representation of A: anchorage part of prosthesis as a separate cylinder, B: retaining screw, C: fitting of retaining screw in the prosthesis and lateral movement, D: prosthesis including anchorage part; 1 = anchorage part of prosthesis, 2 = hole, 3 = neck of retaining screw, 4 = interface with implant, 13 = head of retaining screw, 14 = conical opening, 15 = threaded shaft.
- Figure 2: Schematic representation of A: implant; B: implant replica, C: implant assembly including an abutment; D: centering screw; E: schematic representation of a combination of prosthesis, implant, and retaining screw wherein the interface between the prosthesis and implant is characterised by a flat to flat connection; 5 = interface, 6 = fixture head, 7 = distal part of exterior surface of implant, 8 = proximal part of exterior surface of implant, 9 = proximal end of implant replica, 10 = indentation, 11 = distal end of implant replica, 12 = internally threaded hole, 16 = tapered distal section, 17 = threaded shaft.

Kindly amend the paragraph at page 14, lines 1-12 as follows.

According to a particular embodiment of the invention, the interface between implant and prosthesis is made at the level of the gingiva, not of the bone. This is achieved by providing that the external surface of the implant comprises a proximal part

having a smooth surface, e.g. a surface which is not threaded or treated to interface with bone. More particularly, this proximal part is extended from about 1 mm to about 2 mm or more. Thus, upon placement the implant, the fixture head is situated above the bone level, the smooth part of the implant being in the mucosa. The extension of this implant collar limits or eliminates the known problem (Bozkaya D. et al., Stress distribution Characteristics of Various implant Systems due to Non-Central Occlusal Loads, Northeastern Univ, Boston,

<http://www1.coe.neu.edu/~about.smuftu/Dincer/comparison.pdf>) of bone resorption in the area around the implant-abutment interface.